

NEW JERSEY MILITIA NEWSLETTER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 6

December 2017

All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

-- Article 1, Section 1, New Jersey State Constitution

The Problem of Identity Politics and Its Solution

By Matthew Continetti

The beginnings of identity politics can be traced to 1973, when Alexander Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago* demolished any pretense of communism's moral authority. This presented a challenge for the Left: how to carry on the fight against capitalism when its major ideological alternative was [shown to be] no longer viable.

The Left found its answer in an identity politics that grew out of anti-colonialism. Marx's class struggle was reformulated into an ethno-racial struggle – a ceaseless competition between colonizer and colonized, victim and victimizer, oppressor and oppressed – the supposed power relations that subordinated minorities and exploited third world nations.

The study of history became the study of Western Civilization's oppression of various groups. And popping up everywhere were new departments of "studies": African-American studies, Women's Studies, Queer Studies, Chicano Studies, Gender Studies, and so on. "What these radicals blandly call multiculturalism," wrote Irving Kristol, "is as much a 'war against the West' as Nazism and Stalinism ever were. Under the guise of multiculturalism, their ideas – whose radical substance often goes beyond the bounds of the political into sheer fantasy – are infiltrating our educational system at all levels."

This revolution in American universities was accomplished swiftly and largely outside the public eye. What little resistance the radicals met was vanquished with the accusation of racism.

There have been liberal critics of identity politics, such as Arthur Schlesinger Jr. in his 1991 book *The Disuniting of America: Reflections on a Multicultural Society*. Schlesinger presented America as a nation of nations, a shared national culture whose diverse citizenry is united behind principles of liberty and equal justice. He quoted Jean de Crevecoeur's 1782 *Letters from an American Farmer*:

"He is an American, who leaving behind him all his ancient prejudices and manners, receives new ones from the new mode of life he has embraced, the new government he obeys, and the new rank he holds....Here individuals of all nations are melted into a new race of men."

Despite intellectual dissidents [such as Harvard political scientist Samuel Huntington, (*Who Are We?* 2004); and Columbia humanities professor Mark Lilla, this year] the Democratic Party and liberal elites appear committed to the idea that multiculturalism and identity politics, combined with the changing demographics of America, will bring about an enduring Democratic national majority.

The condescension of liberal elites toward the white working class, evangelical Christians, gun owners and supporters of immigration control and cultural assimilation is as pronounced as it is repulsive. It is summed up in Hillary Clinton's writing off of so many voters last year as belonging to a "basket of deplorables."

What is more, the Left rejects the natural rights theory of the American Founding at the core of our tradition.

What has traditionally held Americans together is the idea that

each of us is made in the image of our Creator and endowed with certain unalienable rights. But *not only* that idea. We are also held together by the culture that emanates from the intermingling of dynamic peoples and unchanging principles. To combat identity politics, we must emphasize an American nationalism based on both a commitment to the ideals of the American Founding and a shared love of our national history and culture – a history and culture of individual freedom and religious pluralism, resistant to centralized authority and ever expanding into new frontiers and new possibilities.

We should also remember the words of a great American nationalist, Abraham Lincoln, at the close of his First Inaugural Address:

"We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."-- *Adapted from a speech delivered at Hillsdale College on October 24, 2017.* Matthew Continetti is the editor-in-chief of the *Washington Free Beacon*.

Berkeley OK with violent groups but not liberty lovers

By Bob Unruh

Young Americans for Liberty is the largest pro-liberty student group in the country, with some 900 college chapters across the landscape.

Its members "share a mutual respect for freedom, the U.S.

Constitution, and the natural rights of life, liberty, and property."

But the University of California at Berkeley has refused to recognize the organization.

So a lawsuit has been filed to rectify the problem.

Caleb Dalton of the Alliance Defending Freedom, which is representing the students, said public universities "are supposed to be a 'marketplace of ideas' for students, but that can't happen when administrators are allowed to pick and choose which student organizations will be recognized based on the students' views."

YAL is prohibited from reserving space for meetings, it cannot invite speakers and it cannot access the pool of funds to which its members contribute.

The campus already allows Cal Berkeley Democrats, Progressive Student Association, Socialist Alternative at Berkeley and the Queer Alliance \$ Resource Center.

But Berkeley officials claim the YAL organization is "too similar" to Cal Libertarians, who already are recognized.

"Instead of fostering a marketplace of ideas, UC-Berkeley is using government regulation to limit exposure to ideas – repressing rather than expanding freedom," said ADF Senior Counsel Casey Mattox.

-- worldnetdaily.com December 5, 2017

What's the best lighting option for preppers?

By Pat McLene

This week, we'll carry on with ways to light the darkness, prepper style. We'll begin by taking a further look at the mantle-style kerosene or gasoline lamps. We've found a standard-wick lamp can run on a gallon of kerosene for over 25 days, eight hours per day. An Aladdin-style lamp can usually provide pretty good light for 12 hours on a quart of fuel. For a good comparison of oil, kerosene and white gas lamps and lanterns, check out this YouTube video.

I only have one major disagreement with this video: I've always found Aladdins to be more finicky than the presenter suggests. You have to really let them warm up for quite a while before you adjust the light higher. If you don't, you'll quickly soot-up the mantle. In theory, you can burn that soot off by turning down the lamp for a few minutes, but I've had plenty of mantles that never completely lose the

soot and that means lower light output and a shorter mantle life.

Nevertheless, mantle-style lamps and lanterns are the best combustible light sources going, and the prudent prepper should keep a couple around.

If you take a trip over to the Coleman website, you'll see they've already decided the future.

Coleman dumped the vast majority of combustible-fuel lanterns altogether and switched over to battery-powered LED (light emitting diodes) – and for good reason. LED lamps simply produce more light using less power for longer periods of time. They're more robust – meaning they can take hits that would knock a mantle or incandescent bulb out of service – and they no longer pose the fire danger of combustion lighting.

Regarding flashlights, there's simply no comparison between the old incandescent bulb flashlights and LED. An LED handheld flashlight can now produce over a million lumens and throw a light over a mile, something no handheld incandescent could ever hope to do.

So which flashlights do I recommend? My personal favorite is a Duracell 1000. It's powerful enough to light up an area 600 feet from my front door, and it has an adjustable-width beam. It's heavy, about ten inches long, and would definitely ring your chimes if I hit you with it. I've had it for a couple of years, haven't had to change the C cells yet, and it's worked well in blowing rain and snow. But the reviews on Amazon suggests that dependability of the Duracell 1000 is pretty spotty, with switch failures being the usual culprit.

Check out some options in the WND Superstore preparedness department. New products of all kinds being added regularly for all your prepper needs – from informational books, movies to shovels, water purifiers, and food from soup to nuts! -- worldnetdaily.com Nov.28, 2017

U.S. top court spurns challenge to Maryland assault weapons ban

By Andrew Chung

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Supreme Court dealt a setback on Monday to gun rights proponents, refusing to hear a challenge to Maryland's 2013 state ban on assault weapons enacted after a Connecticut school massacre.

The court turned away an appeal by several Maryland residents, firearms dealers and the state National

Rifle Association, who argued that the ban violated their right to keep and bear arms under the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment. The conservative-majority court on Monday also declined to hear a challenge to Florida's ban on openly carrying firearms.

The justices, who have avoided major gun cases for seven years, sidestepped the roiling national debate over the availability of military-style guns to the public.

The case focused on weapons that have become a recurring feature in U.S. mass shootings including the Nov. 5 attack at a Texas church that killed 26 people, the Oct. 1 attack at a Las Vegas concert that killed 58 people, and the 2012 massacre of 20 schoolchildren and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, which prompted Maryland's law.

Assault weapons are popular among gun enthusiasts.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia, said it had no power to extend constitutional protections to "weapons of war," and it found little evidence such guns were well-suited for self-defense.

Maryland's ban outlaws "assault long guns," mostly semi-automatic rifles such as the AR-15 and AK-47, as well as large-capacity magazines, which prevent the need for frequent reloading.

Backed by the influential NRA gun lobby, the plaintiffs said in a court filing that semi-automatic rifles are in common use and that law-abiding citizens should not be deprived of them.

The Supreme Court last year left in place assault weapons bans in New York and Connecticut.

"It's inexplicable to me that people would allow the use of assault weapons when they see the carnage that has been inflicted on innocent victims around the country," Democratic Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh said.

The NRA's Institute for Legislative Action took issue with the court's refusal to hear the appeal, saying in a statement that a 2008 ruling by the justices "clearly stated that arms in common use for lawful purposes are protected by the Second Amendment and thus cannot be subject to an outright ban."

"We will continue fighting to ensure that the Second Amendment freedoms of law-abiding Americans are respected in the courts," the group added.

In recent years, the Supreme Court has repeatedly refused to second guess lower court decisions upholding state and local restrictions on assault weapons, which filled a void after a federal ban on these firearms expired in 2004.

Its last major firearms rulings were in 2008, finding for the first time that the Second Amendment protected an individual's right to gun ownership under federal law, specifically to keep a handgun at home for self-defense, and in 2010, when it found that right applied to state and local laws as well.

Since then, gun rights advocates have been probing how far those rights extend, including the types of guns and where they can be carried.

In the Florida case, defendant Dale Lee Norman, who had a permit to carry a concealed weapon, was convicted of openly carrying a handgun in 2012 near his home in Fort Pierce, Florida. The Florida Supreme Court in March rejected Norman's challenge to the so-called open-carry ban, saying it did not violate his right to bear arms, and the U.S. high court refused to take up his appeal. -- Reuters November 27, 2017

Honolulu Police Order Medical Marijuana Cardholders to Surrender Their Firearms

By AWR Hawkins

The Honolulu Police Department is ordering medical marijuana cardholders to surrender their firearms within a 30-day window of time.

KITV reports that Honolulu police are doing this via letters to cardholders demanding they "surrender weapons, permits, and ammunition to HPD or to transfer ownership."

On November 28 *The Honolulu Star* reported that the letter dated November 13 was signed by HPD chief Susan Ballard. It says, "Your medical marijuana use disqualifies you from ownership of firearms and ammunition."

Ballard points to Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 134-7 (a), which says, "No person who is a fugitive from justice or is a person prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition under federal law shall own, possess, or control any firearm or ammunition therefor."

On August 31, 2016, Breitbart News reported that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled that a ban on gun ownership for medical marijuana users is constitutional. The

decision was based on the fact that marijuana use remains illegal on the federal level, whether state-sanctioned or not. This means medical marijuana cardholders cannot pass background check form 4473 and, therefore, cannot legally purchase a firearm.

Form 4473 asks if the would-be firearm purchaser is "an unlawful user of...marijuana." No one who answers "yes" to that question can purchase a gun.-- www.breitbart.com 29 Nov. 2017

"Don't Fix NICS Background Check System!"

Background system cannot be fixed – go to Plan B

In an email announcement, Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership published an outside article calling for repair to the NICS national background check system for guns. This was an editing oversight. The defective NICS system should be abolished, not fixed.

NICS failed, and could not possibly have stopped the Las Vegas murderer. NICS wastes untold fortunes that could go into real law enforcement, and has stopped virtually no real criminals. It continuously denies innocent Americans fundamental rights without due process, yet is praised by "news" media and leftists, misleading the public.

Putting government in charge of exercising the Second Amendment runs contrary to the spirit and intent of gun ownership in this nation. Only the commission of real crime should institute police action. Providing national police with an on-off switch for gun sales, which NICS basically does, is abhorrent.

JPFO stands for eliminating NICS, and with it the bureaucratic infrastructure, without delay, not making it work "better." We ask our supporters for their understanding in letting that memo slip past the editor's desk. Although "improving" NICS is a talking point for other groups, it is not one for JPFO. So-called "gun control" is not a credible policy position, offering false promises of safety, leaving innocent people helpless and historically opening the door to oppression and genocide.

Even the posting's language should have alerted us, but it too slipped through. The report referred to a *shooter*, instead of a *murderer*. We are all shooters. Being a shooter is good. More people should become shooters. JPFO encourages shooters. The media and the left want to steal

this word from Americans. Framing any discussion and denigrating that decent word or mindlessly attaching it to malfeasance hurts us all.

"The murderer in Sutherland Springs..." places the proper emphasis and is accurate, not intentionally vague, misleading or deceptive. Again, we're sorry to have burdened our audience and the world with the sort of trash we expect from CNN and their propaganda cohorts claiming to be journalists.

NICS not only failed to stop this psychopath, it could not, and no incarnation of it could. If anything, America should consider adopting the far less expensive BIDS (Blind Identification System). BIDS works like wanted posters. Instead of sending the names of millions of innocent gun buyers to the FBI, as leftists want and have implemented, the FBI simply alerts gun dealers of hardened criminals who are banned, by secure and encrypted means with tracking logs. Leftists and many politicians hate that--it shows them up for the frauds they are. Don't expect the "news" media to mention this.

The BIDS System explained:
www.gunlaws.com/BIDSvNICS
-- www.jfpo.org Press release 11/20/2017

Why Muslims will never assimilate in America - Part 2

By Bill Federer

Bill Federer gives detailed analysis of Muslim assimilation with American law Are the Quran and the U.S. Constitution compatible

Ed.: In our November newsletter Federer argues that 57 Islamic countries have rejected the U.N. "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" in favor of the Cairo Declaration which affirms shariah law as supreme. Federer also argues that shariah law is incompatible with the U.S. constitution. Last month he covered the First amendment. What follows is the rest of his analysis, covering Amendments Two to Twenty-one:

*The Second Amendment states "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," yet Islamic law states non-Muslims cannot possess arms, swords or weapons of any kind.

*The Third Amendment states one cannot be forced to "quarter" someone in their house, yet Islamic law states non-Muslims must entertain and feed for three days any Muslim who wants to stay in their home, and for a longer period if the Muslim falls ill, and they

cannot prevent Muslim travelers from staying in their places of worship.

*The Fourth Amendment guarantees "the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures," yet Islamic law states if a non-Muslim rides on a horse with a saddle and bridle, the horse can be taken away.

*The Fifth Amendment states that "no person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime ... without due process of law," yet Mohammad said "No Muslim should be killed for killing a Kafir (infidel)." (Hadith Sahih al-Bukhari, Vol. 9, No. 50).

*The Sixth Amendment guarantees a "public trial by an impartial jury" and the *Seventh Amendment states "the right of trial by jury shall be preserved," yet Islamic law does not give non-Muslims equal legal standing with Muslims, even prohibiting them from testifying in court against Muslims.

*The Eighth Amendment states there shall be no "cruel and unusual punishments inflicted," yet the Quran states: "Cut off the hands of thieves, whether they are male or female, as punishment for what they have done – a deterrent from Allah." (Sura 5:38) A woman who has been raped is also punished "with a hundred stripes." (Sura 24:2) Women can be beaten: "If you experience rebellion from the women, you shall first talk to them, then (you may use negative incentives like) deserting them in bed, then you may (as a last alternative) beat them" (Sura 4:34). Honor killings of wives and daughters who have embarrassed their families have been reported by the United Nations in Muslim populations of Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan, Syria, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Yemen and increasing in Western nations.

*The 13th Amendment states there shall be no "slavery or involuntary servitude," yet the Quran accommodates slavery as Mohammad owned slaves.

*The 14th Amendment guarantees citizens "equal protection of the laws," yet the Quran does not consider Jews, Christians and other non-Muslims as equal to Muslims before the law. Referring to Jews as "the People of the Book," Muhammad said: "They are those whom Allah has cursed; who have been under his wrath; some of whom were turned into apes and swine" (Sura 5:60, 7:166, 2:65).

*The 15th Amendment guarantees "the right of the citizens ... to vote shall not be denied ... on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude," yet

strict interpretation of Islamic law does not allow voting, as democracy is considered people setting themselves in the place of Allah by making the laws.

*The 16th Amendment has some similarities with Islamic law, as "Congress shall have the power to lay and collect taxes on incomes from whatever source derived." Mohammad said "Fight those who believe not in Allah ... until they pay the jizya [tax] with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued." (Sura 9:29)

*The 18th Amendment has some similarities with Islamic law, as "the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors ... for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited."

*The 19th Amendment allows women to vote, yet in strict Islamic countries women cannot vote.

*The 21st Amendment allows for the sale of liquor, yet Islamic law states non-Muslims are not to sell or drink wine and liquor openly.

One would assume that to swear upon a book implies believing what is in that book. As Muhammad was not just a religious leader, but also a political-military leader, Sharia Islam is not just a religious system, but also a political-military system.

Since no one has the authority to demand Muslims worldwide cease imitating the political-military example of Muhammad, when Sharia-practicing Muslims bow in prayer they are also pledging political-military allegiance to Mecca.

Swearing to defend the U.S. Constitution upon a Quran that promotes different values presents a dilemma. Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson, appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, wrote in the foreword of the book "Law in the Middle East" (1955): "Islamic law offers the American lawyer a study in dramatic contrasts. Even casual acquaintance and superficial knowledge ... reveal that its striking features relative to our law are not likenesses but inconsistencies, not similarities but contrarities. In its source, its scope and its sanctions, the law of the Middle East is the antithesis (direct opposite) of Western law."

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-- www.wndcom/2017/11/21

Triple talaq: India considers jail for 'instant divorce'

Husbands who attempt "instant divorce" could be sentenced to

three years in prison under draft legislation being considered in India.

The traditional practice involves a Muslim man saying "talaq" (divorce) three times - in any form, including email or text message.

It was declared unconstitutional by India's Supreme Court in August, but officials say it has continued since.

The Muslim Women Protection of Rights on Marriage Bill would explicitly ban "triple talaq and lay out legal procedures for a "subsistence allowance" and custody arrangements, the Press Trust of India said.

Muslims are India's largest minority group, and it is one of a few countries where the practice of triple talaq - which has no basis in the Koran - has survived.

The Supreme Court labelled the traditional practice "un-Islamic".

-- www.bbc.com December 2, 2017

Where Silicon Valley Is Going to Get in Touch with Its Soul

By Nellie Bowles

BIG SUR, Calif. — Silicon Valley, facing a crisis of the soul, has found a retreat center.

It has been a hard year for the tech industry. Prominent figures like Sean Parker and Justin Rosenstein, horrified by what technology has become, have begun to publicly denounce companies like Facebook that made them rich.

And so Silicon Valley has come to the Esalen Institute, a storied hippie hotel on the Pacific coast south of Carmel, Calif. It has a new mission: It will be a home for technologists to reckon with what they have built.

This is a radical change for the rambling old center. Founded in 1962, the nonprofit helped bring yoga, organic food and meditation into the American mainstream.

"There's a dawning consciousness emerging in Silicon Valley as people recognize that their conventional success isn't necessarily making the world a better place," said executive director Ben Tauber, 34, a former Google product manager and start-up executive coach. "The C.E.O.s, inside they're hurting. They can't sleep at night."

There are programs on depression and tech; internet addiction; tech futurists will host a conference on virtual reality and spirituality.

Esalen holds 120 guests, who stay in little cottages along the rugged coast. Esalen's hot springs are good all day but are famous for the night

scene, when they open to the public between 1 and 3 a.m. A weekend stay for a couple at Esalen can cost \$2,890, so budget travelers stay nearby and come wandering in with towels a little after midnight.

Mr. Tauber's plan is to aim programming at top executives. "How do we scale our impact as an organization?" he asked. "We do it through impacting the influencers."

Upstairs in his house, the Inner-Net class was doing a compassion exercise. Everyone spent 10 minutes looking into a stranger's eyes and silently repeating phrases like "this person has emotions just like me," "this person has experienced pain and suffering just like me," "this person will die just like me." They were barefoot. Some were wrapped in coarse blankets. -- nytimes.com December 4, 2017

Illegal Immigration Costs U.S. Taxpayers A Stunning \$134.9 Billion a Year

The \$134.9 billion figure is according to a detailed analysis of federal, state and local programs that include education, medical care, law enforcement and welfare. Conducted by the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), the in-depth probe reveals that state and local taxpayers get stuck with \$89 billion of the burden, and federal expenditures total \$46 billion. For those who claim illegal immigrants contribute by paying taxes, government figures show that only \$19 billion was recouped by Uncle Sam.

This defies a myth, long promoted by influential open-border groups, that illegal aliens pay their fair share of taxes.

More than 12.5 million illegal immigrants and their estimated 4.6 million citizen children benefit from the U.S. government's generosity: \$17.14b for medical services, \$13.15b for law enforcement, \$8b on general government programs and \$5.85b on welfare.

For state and local governments, education is by far the largest expense: \$44b. General public services such as fire and garbage total \$18.5b; medical \$12.1b; law enforcement \$4.8b. The top four spenders on providing illegal aliens benefits are California (\$23b), Texas (\$10.9), New York (\$7.5b) and Florida (\$6.3).

As FAIR writes in its report, it's not just about money. "A continually growing population of illegal

aliens...present significant national security and public safety threats to the United States." -- Judicial Watch Verdict Dec. 2017

Police Can Access Your DNA from 23andMe and Ancestry.com

By Jessica Bourne

Millions of people have handed their DNA over to genetic testing companies like Ancestry or 23andMe to learn more about their family trees.

But when you ship off your saliva, law enforcement could have access to your DNA.

Police could use genetic information it gets from those companies to identify you in a criminal investigation, even if you've never used one of those services.

Both 23andMe and Ancestry confirm your genetic information could be disclosed to law enforcement if they have a warrant.

According to the company, law enforcement has requested information for five American 23andMe customers.

So far, the company reports it has not turned over any information.

Ancestry reports that it complied with a 2014 search warrant to identify a customer based on a DNA sample.

Spokespeople at the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the State Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office and the Florida Department Of Law Enforcement told Action News Jax they don't recall any local investigations in which genetic testing information was requested from a private company. But it doesn't even have to be your DNA; if a family member who shipped off their saliva to one of these companies, law enforcement can request their genetic information for "familial matching."

Jacksonville's Dr. Saman Soleymani, who has studied genetics extensively and been an expert witness in local criminal cases, said he didn't take any chances when he sent his DNA to 23andMe. "I literally sent my kit saying my name is Billy Bob," he added.

If you or a family member has sent in your genetic material to Ancestry or 23andMe, both companies allow you to delete your DNA results.-- CBS 47 Action News Jax Nov. 19, 2017

Massive US social media spying archive left wide open

By Ian Thomson

Three misconfigured AWS S3 buckets have been discovered wide open on the public internet containing "dozens of terabytes" of social media posts and similar pages – all scraped from around the world by the US military to identify and profile persons of interest.

The archives were found by UpGuard's veteran security-breach hunter Chris Vickery during a routine scan of open Amazon-hosted data silos. The buckets were named centcom-backup, centcom-archive, and pacom-archive.

CENTCOM is the common abbreviation US Central Command, which controls the army, navy, air force, marines and special ops in the Middle East, north Africa and central Asia. PACOM is the name for US Pacific Command, covering the rest of southern Asia, China and Australasia.

Just one of the buckets contained 1.8 billion social media posts automatically fetched over the past eight years up to today. It mainly contains postings made in central Asia, however some of the material is taken from comments made by American citizens.

The archive was collected as part of the US government's Outpost program, which is a social media monitoring and influencing campaign designed to target overseas youths and steer them away from terrorism.

Another file Vickery found refers to Coral, which may well be a reference to the US military's Coral Reef data-mining program.

"Coral Reef is a way to analyze a major data source to provide the analyst the ability to mine significant amounts of data and provide suggestive associations between individuals to build out that social network," Mark Kitz, technical director for the Army Distributed Common Ground System – Army, told the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association magazine Signal back in 2012.

After years of security cockups like this in the public and private sectors, Amazon has tried to help its customers avoid configuring their S3 buckets as publicly accessible stores, by adding full folder encryption, yellow warning lights when buckets aren't locked down, and tighter access controls.

Vickery said he notified the military about the screwup, and the

buckets have now been locked down and hidden. Unusually, the military contact thanked him for bringing the matter to their attention – usually talking to the armed forces is a "one-way street," Vickery said.

The Register asked CENTCOM officials for comment, and for more details on Outpost and Coral Reef, but wheels turn slowly in the Green Machine. We'll update the story as soon as more information is known.
-- www.theregister.co.uk 17 Nov. 2017

NYC Terror Suspect Came to U.S. as Foreign Relative of 'Visa Lottery' Immigrant

By John Binder

The Bangladesh-born terror suspect who allegedly attempted to detonate a suicide-bomb in New York City was able to enter the U.S. as a foreign relative of an immigrant, extended-family member who had won a visa to the U.S. under the Diversity Visa Lottery.

On Monday 27-year-old Akayed Ullah, a Bangladesh national, injured three individuals when he allegedly tried to detonate a suicide bomb in NYC in a terrorist attack.

In a statement by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Ullah was able to enter the U.S. in 2011 as a foreign relative after one of his family members was awarded a Green Card in the Visa Lottery.

Every year, the Visa Lottery — championed by Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) — gives out 50,000 visas to foreign nationals from a multitude of countries, including those with known terrorist problems.

Ullah was able to obtain a visa as the nephew of his Visa Lottery relative. This process of extended-family mass immigration to the U.S. is known as "chain migration."

Chain migration allows new immigrants to the U.S. to bring an unlimited number of foreign relatives with them.

Ullah came to the U.S. through the F43 visa, allowing him to obtain a Green Card simply because

his father's brother or sister had recently been allotted a visa under the Visa Lottery.

Under the Visa Lottery, 14,869 Bangladeshi nationals entered the U.S. between 2007 and 2012.

Since 2013, Bangladesh was thrown off the list of foreign countries eligible for the Visa Lottery because the country became one of the largest immigrant-sending countries to the U.S., with the number of chain migrants arriving from Bangladesh more than doubling between 2005 and 2016.

Ullah is the second terrorist in less than three months to have been allowed to enter the U.S. because of the Visa Lottery.

Suspected NYC terrorist, Uzbek national 29-year-old Sayfullo Saipov, who is accused of murdering at least eight individuals, entered the U.S. in 2010 by winning one of the 50,000 visas randomly allotted in the Visa Lottery.

Researchers with the Center for Immigration Studies have estimated that the impact of the Visa Lottery coupled with chain migration has led to a flow of nearly five million foreign nationals arriving in the U.S. since 1994, a population that is larger than Los Angeles, California.
-- www.breitbart.com 11 Dec. 2017

Man gets 28 years in plot to behead conservative blogger

By Alanna Durkin Richer

BOSTON - A man convicted of leading an Islamic State-inspired plot to behead a conservative blogger who upset Muslims when she organized a Prophet Muhammad cartoon contest was sentenced Tuesday to 28 years in prison.

David Wright, who's 28 years old, insisted he never really wanted to hurt anyone but pretended to support the Islamic State group to get attention online.

Prosecutors portrayed Wright as the leader of the conspiracy to kill Pam Geller, who has spearheaded scores of events across the nation to decry Islamic extremism, such as the

cartoon contest in Garland, Texas.

Prosecutors said Wright collected dozens of gruesome Islamic State videos and documents that encouraged violence against Americans, including a manifesto that said America's days are "numbered".

Nicholas Rovinski, of Warwick, Rhode Island, pleaded guilty last year to conspiracy, testified against Wright and is scheduled to be sentenced Wednesday. Prosecutors are seeking 15 years behind bars.

The cartoon contest Geller organized in 2015 ended with two Muslim gunmen shot to death by police.

Geller, who spoke at Wright's sentencing, urged the judge to sentence him to life in prison, saying it was "impossible to overstate the devastation" he had brought to her life. She said she had been forced to live in fear and spend tens of thousands of dollars on security.
-- AP December 19, 2017

Case against Cliven Bundy declared a mistrial

A federal judge declared a mistrial Wednesday in the case of a Nevada rancher accused of leading an armed standoff against the government in 2014, blaming prosecutors for withholding key evidence from defense lawyers, including records about the conduct of FBI and Bureau of Land Management agents.

Chief U.S. District Judge Gloria Navarro in Las Vegas dismissed a jury seated last month for the long-awaited trial of Cliven Bundy, two of his sons and self-styled Montana militia leader Ryan Payne.

The decision is the latest in a string of failed prosecutions in Nevada and Oregon against those who have opposed federal control of vast swaths of land in Western states.

"The government is obligated to disclose all evidence that might be favorable" to the defense, the judge said.

-- foxnews.com/2017/12/20

NJM, P.O. Box 10176, Trenton New Jersey 08650

ISSN 1523-4657

Back issues, from 1997 to date, can be found online. Just go to: <https://archive.org/> and in the Search Field, type in "New Jersey Militia Newsletter". So grab the PDFs and pass them around via email to others who have never seen the hard copies.

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